

# **MetroGIS Benefits Study**



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# MetroGIS Benefits Study



- Funded by FGDC
- Two Part Study
  - Interviews
  - Survey

# Interviews



- Sources for names
  - TLG Centerline users list
  - County data logs
- Total Interviewed - 45
  - City - 12
  - County - 7
  - Regional - 23
  - Private - 3

# Interview Results



- Major Recognized Benefits
  - Working Relationships
  - Regional Datasets
  - DataFinder/Metadata

# Improved Working Relationships



- Better Sharing of Data and Processes
  - Increased trust
- Increased Coordination
  - Adjacent jurisdictions
  - Overlapping jurisdictions

# Improved Working Relationships



- Benefits From MetroGIS
  - Support of Users Groups
  - Creating Forums for Discussion

# Regional Datasets



- Street Centerlines
- Orthophotography
- Jurisdictional Boundaries

# Regional Datasets



## ■ Best as Simple Layers

- | Backdrops, address matching, common boundaries

## ■ Many Attributes Difficult

- | Land Use



# Metadata Standards



- DataFinder as Repository
- Need for Standards for Shared Data

# **MetroGIS Benefits Study**

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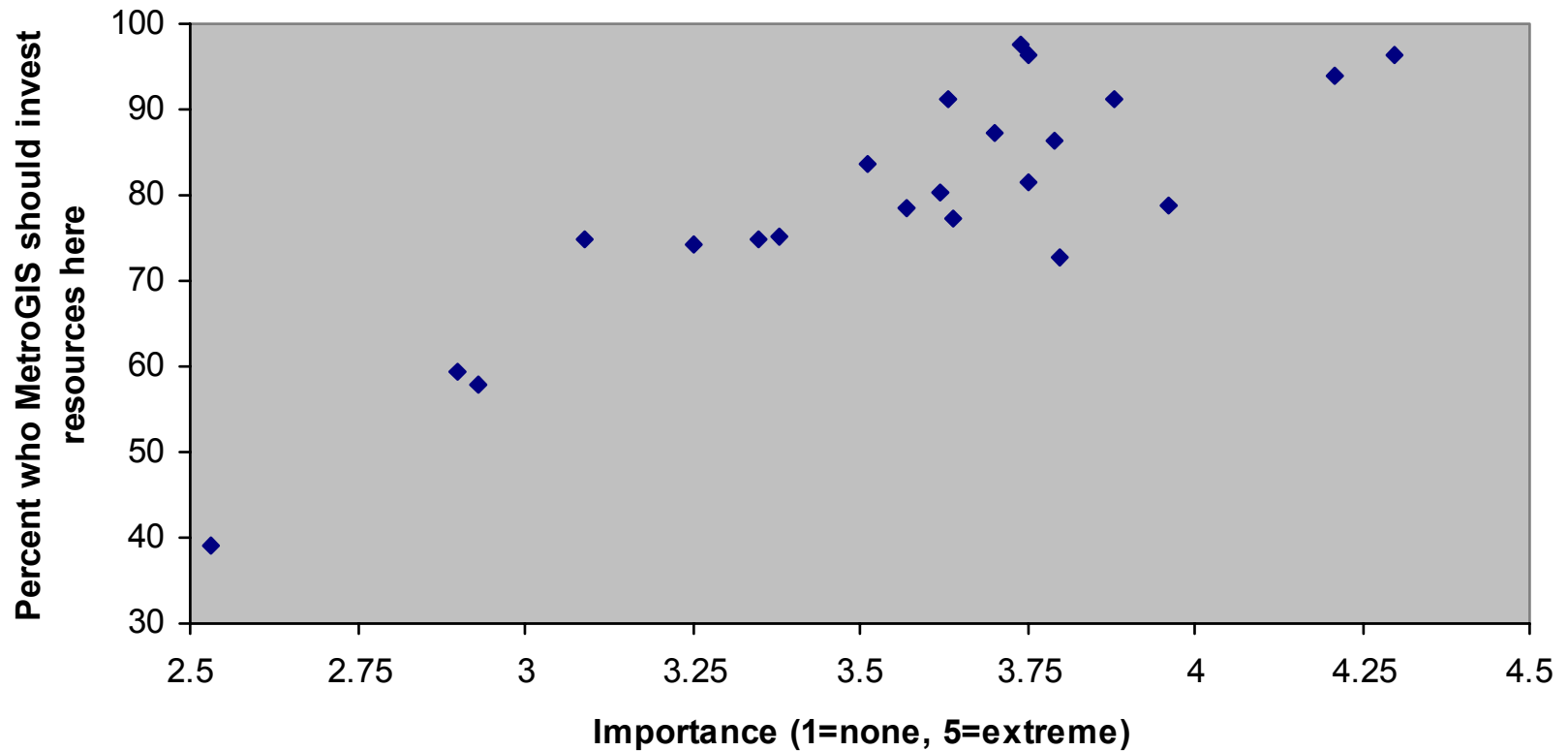
## **Preliminary Survey Results**

# Survey Results



- Do you feel that your participation in MetroGIS has been an effective use of your time?
  - Yes, very effective 20.7%
  - Yes, moderately effective 57.5%
  - No, not very effective 12.6%
  - No, not at all effective 2.3%

# Ratings of MetroGIS Functions



# **Highest Rated Functions of MetroGIS**

**(Importance  $\geq 4.0$  and invest  $\geq 90\%$ )**



- Promote voluntary policies which foster coordination
- Facilitate data sharing agreements and licensing

# **Middling Rated Functions of MetroGIS**

## **(Importance $\geq 3.5$ and invest $\geq 70\%$ )**



- Maintain MetroGIS web site <[www.metrogis.org](http://www.metrogis.org)>
- Support DataFinder
- Identify unmet GIS needs and act on these needs
- Develop master contracts for regional GIS projects
- Promote collaborative funding of projects
- Create and/or maintain priority datasets

(continued)

# **Middling Rated Functions of MetroGIS (continued)**



- Promote forums for MetroGIS stakeholders
- Require standards for regional datasets
- Development of endorsed standards
- Guidelines for getting electronic access
- Help development and exchange of GIS applications
- Maintain relationships with other organizations
- Advocate for MetroGIS

# Lowest Rated Functions of MetroGIS

**(Importance < 3.5 and invest <75%)**



- Promote filling gaps in metadata
- Conduct research to meet common regional needs
- Provide technical assistance to participants
- Publish MetroGIS newsletter
- Identify GIS and education needs
- Market MetroGIS data and products
- Provide a repository of GIS job information



# DataFinder



■ Have you ever used DataFinder?

■ Yes 46%

■ No 54%

# DataFinder Users



■ Were you able to find what you were looking for?

■ Yes 82%

■ No 18%

■ Any obstacles obtaining the data?

■ Yes 45%

■ No 55%

# DataFinder Users



- Did the problems prevent you from using the data?
  - Yes 16%
  - No 84%

# Other Data



- Has MetroGIS ever helped you to obtain any data either free or at reduced rates?
  - No, did not seek help or need any help 41%
  - No, the system does not work well 1%
  - No, but MetroGIS helped find the data at full cost 2%
  - Yes, but the data has not been used much 16%
  - Yes, and the data has been very useful 41%

# Other Data



- Are there any other data sets you need from others but can't get?
  - Yes 25%
  - No 75%

# Other Data



## ■ What keeps you from getting this data?

■ Cost of acquisition	45%
■ Data does not exist	41%
■ Licensing problems	32%
■ Cannot find the data	9%
■ Cost of internal production	5%
■ Other	14%

# Other Data



- Do you share or use data from others that is NOT among the top 13 information needs?
  - Yes 40%
  - No 60%

# Subscription Fee



- If a subscription fee was developed that was consistent with perceived benefit received, would you be able to pay for regional data sets?
  - Yes, definitely 14%
  - Yes, probably 51%
  - No, probably not 30%
  - No, definitely not 5%



# Other Benefits



- Other than delivering data to you, has MetroGIS made a positive impact on your work in any of these other areas?
  - Attitude about sharing throughout the region 45%
  - Communication about GIS 40%
  - Data standards 24%
  - Learning opportunities 24%
  - Support of users groups 18%
  - Funding of projects 18%

# Other Benefits



■ Technical support	11%
■ Shared computer programs or applications	7%
■ Shared processing procedures or best practices	6%
■ None of the above	25%
■ Other	2%

# Issues to Address



- Funding / Structure
- Access to more data

# Summary of Benefits



- More data sharing
- More communication
- Better attitude about sharing

# Problems to Address



- Need more data/ cheaper data
- How to pay for MetroGIS?